

USER NOTES FOR PIC-PLOT

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AN INTRODUCTION

As opposed to the manual transfer of a screen\$ picture to the 1520 using the SCREEN-TO-PLOTTER utility, PIC-PLOT can automatically do a user selected single color 1X size screen dump (plotted size approx. 2" X 1 3/8") of a 22 row X 32 column screen or a 2X size dump (plotted size approx. 3 3/4" X 2 3/4") of a 22 row X 30 column screen with selection of separate vert. and horiz. plot line colors. A colored, auto-centered, multi-line subtitle or caption can be printed below a screen dump.

THE PROGRAM

PIC-PLOT loads in three parts & then auto-runs. The 1520 should remain OFF until you are notified to turn it ON at the program's start. PIC-PLOT is very friendly and can probably be used without reading the following description summary of the screen prompts, but for those who feel better knowing what they will encounter, please read on.

<LOADING PROCEDURE>

The first prompt you see is the notification to turn OFF the recorder, to turn ON the 1520, and to press any key to continue. It is VERY important that the 1520 be turned ON only after the screen notification and that it is allowed to make it's four colored boxes before pressing a key to continue.

<LOADING A SCREEN\$>

The screen\$ load prompt asks for a screen\$ name to be entered. Press ENTER to load the first screen\$ found on the tape. If a loading error occurs during a screen\$ load, you are advised to try to load again or to press the break (caps shift+BREAK) key. Quickly pressing BREAK will return you to the [<A>NOTHER COPY <L>OAD SCREEN\$ <T>ITLE <Q>UIT] menu.

<1X / 2X DUMP>

This prompt is where you choose to do a single color 1X size dump of a 22 row X 32 col. screen, where each "on" screen pixel becomes a single step horiz. movement of the plotter pen, or to plot out a bi-colored 2X size dump of a 22 row X 30 col. screen, where each "on" isolated pixel or group of "on" pixels are bounded by both vert. and horiz. plot line traces. Because of hardware plot width limitations, the 2X dump has to exclude picture information in the first and last character columns.

<PLOT LINE COLOR>

The prompt(s) to select the single color for a 1X dump or two colors (vert./horiz.) for a 2X dump follow the choice of dump size. The screen dump process begins immediately following color selection. Hold the space bar down to stop a screen dump.

<ANOTHER COPY, LOAD SCREEN\$, TITLE, QUIT>

Choosing <A>NOTHER COPY will take you to the dump size prompt where you can change dump size / color(s) before making another copy. Choose <L>OAD SCREEN\$ to load a new picture. <Q>uit will return you to BASIC & is the only way out of the ERROR-trapped PIC-PLOT basic program.

<TITLE>

Upon completion of a screen dump, you may want to give your picture an auto-centered subtitle or caption. You must first select a color and then enter the title or caption. You may have as many lines as you want (by repeatedly choosing <T>ITLE), but each line entered must be less than 40 characters long.

A CAUTION

2X screen dumps of complex pictures, especially those composed of lots of isolated single pixels, can take as long as a half hour to plot. Since the pen driver motors and pen up/down solenoid can become quite warm after such a prolonged period of use, it is advised that the computer and plotter be turned off and allowed to cool before plotting another picture. Several 1X and simple 2X dumps may be made before a cooling period.

PIC-PLOT's machine code was compiled with NovelSoft's TIMACHINE.® I will provide a tape of the basic program that was compiled into m.c. to any previous purchaser of PIC-PLOT for \$6.00 ppd.